

2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Original) A method of identifying a pathogen comprising the steps of:
 - a) contacting immature dendritic cells with a pathogen or immunogenic components thereof;
 - b) isolating and labeling mRNA from said dendritic cells;
 - c) detecting labeled mRNA from said dendritic cells such that a gene profile is produced; and
 - d) analyzing the gene profile relative to one or more reference gene profile(s) such that at least one stimulus-specific gene is identified thereby identifying a pathogen for which the stimulus-specific gene is specific.
6. (Currently Amended) A method of diagnosing infection in a mammal comprising the steps of:
 - a) ~~b~~) isolating mRNA from one or more dendritic cells in a mammal;
 - b) contacting said mRNA with at least one stimulus-responsive gene probe wherein hybridization of a stimulus-responsive probe to said mRNA is indicative of infection in said mammal.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, wherein the stimulus-responsive gene probe is a stimulus-specific gene probe.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, wherein the stimulus-responsive gene probe is a common stimulus-responsive gene probe.
9. (Previously Presented) A method of diagnosing infection by a pathogen in a mammal comprising the steps of:

- a) isolating mRNA from one or more dendritic cells in a mammal;
- b) determining gene expression of at least one stimulus-specific gene, wherein expression of a stimulus-specific gene is indicative of infection by a pathogen to which the stimulus-specific gene is specific.

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50. (Canceled)
51. (Original) A method of identifying a pathogen comprising the steps of:
 - a) contacting one or more immature dendritic cells with a stimulus;
 - b) isolating mRNA from said dendritic cells; and
 - c) determining a gene profile such that at least one stimulus-specific gene is identified thereby identifying a pathogen for which the stimulus-specific gene is specific.

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